

[This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.]

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended): A common carrier system comprising:
a common carrier interface enabling a user to create ~~a~~ an electronic booking request, to submit the electronic booking request to one of any entities ~~entity~~ registered with the system and to receive confirmation of the electronic booking request from the one of any entity/entities.
2. (Currently Amended): The system according to claim 1, wherein the electronic booking request is created from a template stored on the common carrier system, wherein the template was created by the user prior to the creation of the electronic booking request.
3. (Currently Amended): The system according to claim 1, wherein the electronic booking request is created from a previously drafted electronic booking stored on the common carrier system, wherein the previously drafted electronic booking was created by the user or any other user prior to the creation of the electronic booking request.
4. (Currently Amended): The system according to claim 3, wherein the previously drafted electronic booking was a confirmed electronic booking request that was confirmed by at least one of the ~~registered entities~~ registered with the system prior to the user or the any other user creating the electronic booking request.
5. (Currently Amended): The system according to claim 1, wherein the electronic booking request includes a section which enables the user to request a container be transported, wherein the container is transported from an inland origin to a first vessel, the container is loaded onto the first vessel, the container is transported by the first vessel to ~~an~~ intermit location, the container is discharged from the first vessel and the container is delivered to ~~an inland~~ a destination.

6. (Currently Amended): The system according to claim 1, wherein the user and the registered entity negotiated shipping costs prior to the user submitting the electronic booking request.

7. (Currently Amended): The system according to claim 1, wherein the user and the registered entity never negotiated shipping costs prior to the user submitting the electronic booking request.

8. (Original): The system according to claim 7, wherein the user is a new customer of the registered entity.

9-12 (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended): A common carrier system comprising:
a common carrier interface enabling a user to create ~~a~~an electronic booking request, submit the electronic booking request to any entity registered with the system and receive confirmation of the electronic booking request from the any entity, wherein the system, responsive to confirmation from the registered entity to the user and registered entity data, generates electronic event notification messages.

14. (Original): The system according to claim 13, wherein the user determines when the system should notify the user of an event.

15. (Original): The system according to claim 14, wherein the event is a non-event.

16. (Original): The system according to claim 15, wherein the common carrier system notifies the user of the non-event after a predetermined time period has lapsed and the event has not occurred, wherein the user determines the predetermined time period.

17. (New): A system for accessing information comprising:

a first computer system receiving a booking, said first computer system including an output for sending booking information relating to a booking made on said first computer system;

a second computer system remote from the first computer system, said second computer system including an input for receiving the booking information from said first computer system, said second computer system further including an output for outputting said booking information to a customer who made the booking.

18. (New): The system for accessing information according to claim 17, wherein a communication pathway between said first computer system and said second computer system is the internet.

19. (New): The system for accessing information according to claim 17, wherein a communication pathway between said first computer system and said second computer system is electronic data interchange (EDI).

20. (New): The system for accessing information according to claim 17, wherein said customer is able to view the booking information through an application running locally on a computer system of said customer.

21. (New): A method of exchanging booking information pertaining to a shipping transaction comprising the steps of:

receiving booking information from a first computer booking system at a second booking system;

transmitting said booking information to a customer of said first computer booking system.

22. (New): The method according to claim 21, wherein said first computer booking system and said computer booking system exchange information via electronic data interchange (EDI).

23. (New): The method according to claim 21, further comprising the steps of:

receiving additional booking information from said first computer booking system relating to a booking by a user of said first computer booking system;

transmitting additional booking information to said user of said first computer booking system.

24. (New): The method according to claim 21, further comprising the steps of:

receiving additional booking information from a third computer booking system relating to a booking of a user of said third computer booking system;

transmitting said additional booking information to said user of said third computer booking system.

25. (New): The method according to claim 22, wherein the user of said first computer booking system is a customer of said first computer booking system.

26. (New): The method according to claim 22, wherein the user of said first computer booking system is a party to the shipping transaction.

27. (New): A user interface for obtaining shipping information, said shipping information originating from a carrier, said user interface comprising:

a first region for receiving identification information from a user, said identification information relating to a booking; and,

a second region displaying results matching said identification information said results including shipping information regarding said booking,

wherein a computer system receives said results from said carrier and wherein said results are displayed to a user from said carrier system.

28. (New): The user interface according to claim 27, wherein said first region further includes a third region, said third region for receiving at least one of a booking number, a bill of lading number, a container number, a booked vessel identifier, a booked voyage identifier, a latest vessel identifier, a latest voyage identifier, cargo description information, and booking status information.

29. (New): The user interface according to claim 27, wherein said first region further includes a third region, said third region for receiving at least one of a booking creation date, a carrier, a cargo type, and an event.
30. (New): The user interface according to claim 27, wherein said first region further includes a third region, said third region for receiving location information.
31. (New): The user interface according to claim 27, wherein said the user may access booking information from multiple carriers from accessing said user interface created by said computer system.
32. (New): A computer system for receiving booking information from one or more carriers comprising:
an input for receiving booking information from a carrier;
a processor for searching said information based on criteria supplied by a user;
an output for transmitting information relating to said booking information to said user.
33. (New): A computer network comprising:
a customer who creates a booking request;
a carrier who receives said booking request from said customer and confirms the booking request, thereby creating a booking;
a shipping coordinator who receives information from said carrier relating to said booking and provides said booking information to said customer.
34. (New): The computer network according to claim 32, wherein said customer creates said booking with said carrier by one or more telephone communications, by one or more facsimile communications, or over the Internet.
35. (New): The computer network according to claim 33, wherein said carrier transmits information relating to said booking to said shipping coordinator by at least one of the Internet and EDI.

36. (New): The computer network according to claim 33, wherein said shipping coordinator transmits information relating to said booking to said customer by at least one of the Internet and EDI.
37. (New): A method for displaying booking information to a customer comprising:
receiving in a first computer system a request from the customer for information about an electronic booking not booked in the first computer system;
in response to the request for information, retrieving the information about the electronic booking from a second computer system; and
returning the information about the electronic booking to the customer via the first computer system.
38. (New): The method of claim 37, wherein the first computer system is a common carrier system and the second computer system is a carrier's website.
39. (New): The method of claim 37, wherein the electronic booking was booked in the second computer system.
40. (New): The method of claim 39, further comprising:
prior to the receiving step, receiving a booking request from the customer; and
entering the booking request into the second computer system.
41. (New): A method for displaying booking information to a customer comprising:
receiving in a first computer system a first booking request from the customer;
in response to the first booking request, creating a first electronic booking for the customer; and
sending information pertaining to the first electronic booking to a second computer system.
42. (New): The method of claim 41, further comprising:

receiving a request pertaining to the first electronic booking at the second computer system; and

in response to the request pertaining to the first electronic booking, sending information to the customer.

43. (New): The method of claim 42, further comprising:

prior to receiving the request at the second computer system, registering the customer at the second computer system.

44. (New): The method of claim 42, wherein the request pertaining to the first electronic booking is a request to amend the first electronic booking.

45. (New): The method of claim 44, further comprising:

prior to sending the information, amending the first electronic booking.

46. (New): The method of claim 42, wherein the request pertaining to the first electronic booking is a request to provide shipping instructions for the first electronic booking.

47. (New): The method of claim 42, wherein the request pertaining to the first electronic booking is a request to receive a bill of lading for the first electronic booking.

48. (New): The method of claim 43, further comprising:

receiving in a third computer system a second booking request from the customer;

in response to the second booking request, creating a second electronic booking for the customer; and

sending information pertaining to the second electronic booking to a second computer system.

49. (New): The method of claim 48, further comprising:

receiving a request pertaining to the first electronic booking and the second electronic booking at the second computer system; and

in response to the request pertaining to the first electronic booking and the second electronic booking, sending information to the customer pertaining to the first electronic booking and the second electronic booking.

50. (New): The method of claim 5, further comprising:
prior to delivering the container to the destination, loading the container on a second vessel.

51. (New): The method of claim 50, wherein the destination is an inland destination.